

Wilmette Historical Museum
Oral History #95 - Abstract

Interviewee: Helen Lindstrom Aschbacher

Interviewer: John Textor

Date of Interview: May 17, 2010

General Topics: Growing up in Wilmette

Minutes into
Interview

Topics Discussed

0 to 5 min.	Born Sept 2, 1918 in Chicago & moved to Wilmette; father worked at grocery store; lived at 1806 Walnut – 2 flat; Neighbor Mr. Todd. Santa Claus with daddy's shoes. Two older brothers & 1 younger sister. Walked to Hoffmann Bros. dry goods store.
5 to 10 min.	Went to Logan School, then in 5 th grade Howard. When 10 or 11 moved to 3 story house which they moved to 1534 Wilmette Ave. then moved it to 1466 Wilmette. Grandparents (tailor & seamstress) lived with them – Lindstroms. Swedish foods. Then other grandparents (Nordquist) moved in.
10 to 15 min.	School was happy time with friends. Mother made draperies and cakes. Sewing & cooking in school. Went to New Trier
15 to 20 min.	Took French, Latin, business – had average grades; basketball, dances, St. John's Church activities. Names of friends. East side/west side of tracks
20 to 25 min.	Grandmas baked every week, made Swedish treats; fished in Lake Michigan on pier. After graduating worked locally & for mother
25 to 30 min.	Got married June 22, 1940. Happy time. Met Fred Aschbacher at a party he crashed. Dated for 3 years. Father always waited up. Lived in apartment at 1500-block of Central for \$30/mo.
30 to 35 min.	Carol born 1942 then moved to 2007 Lake Ave. Fred worked in Chicago, then did handyman work, then became contractor, was a pianist. Other children – David – architect
35 to 40 min.	David born 1944, Steven born 1947, James born 1951, Susan born 1953. Kept the Swedish traditions. Swedish relatives

(Helen Aschbacher Oral History abstract, page 2)

40 to 45 min. Loved Ravinia, went with Ed Williams; had pinocle club. Fred
built apt bldg. at Lake & Green Bay. Sexy Sixty Club
traveled together; had a lot of fun. Cottage in Spooner, WI

45 to 50 min. Went to Spooner every summer with the 5 kids

Interview ends with John saying “He wants to pause for one second” – then the interview
does not resume.

End of interview

11/28/2020 drs